In the Claims

Claims 1-14, 19, 21, 22 and 25-28 have been canceled.

Claims 15, 17, 20 and 23 are amended.

Claims 29-35 have been added.

Claims 15-18, 20, 23-24, 29-35 remain in the application for consideration and are listed as follows:

1.   (Canceled).

2.   (Canceled).

3.   (Canceled).

4.   (Canceled).

5.   (Canceled).

6.   (Canceled).

7.   (Canceled).

8.   (Canceled).

9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Canceled).

11.   (Canceled).

12.   (Canceled).

13.   (Canceled).

14.   (Canceled).

15.   (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim ~~14~~ 20, the auto-negotiation data structures comprising:

a processing mode data structure, generated by the API to propose a media set of media processing capabilities and/or a split in media processing among system elements to each of the media processing application and the media processing accelerator.

16.   (Original) A computing system according to claim 15, wherein the processing mode data structure is a ConnectMode data structure.

17.   (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim ~~14~~ 20, the auto-negotiation data structures comprising:

a connection mode data structure, specifying a set of media processing system capabilities, and/or

a processing configuration data structure, generated by the API to propose a split in media processing between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator.

18. (Original) A computing system according to claim 17, wherein the processing configuration data structure comprises a ConnectConfig data structure.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A computing system according to claim 19,~~ A computing system comprising:

a media processing application;

a media processing accelerator; and

an operating system, executing on the computing system, including an application program interface (API) to facilitate communication between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator, wherein the API includes auto-negotiation data structure(s) and operational data structure(s) to dynamically negotiate at least a set of media processing system capabilities and/or a split in media processing among system elements suitable to each of the media processing application and the media processing accelerator and to processing of received media content, respectively, the operational data structure(s) comprising:

one or more residual difference data structures, generated by the API to pass residual difference information between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator for media processing; and

one or more control command data structures, generated by the API to pass control commands between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator;

wherein the residual difference data structures and the control command data structures are dynamically generated when the auto-negotiation data structures have negotiated a split in media processing between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator.

21.   (Canceled).

22.   (Canceled).

23.   (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim ~~14~~ 20, further comprising:

a storage medium including a plurality of executable instructions; and

an execution unit, coupled to the storage medium, to execute at least a subset of the plurality of executable instructions to implement the operating system and associated API.

24.   (Original) A computing system according to claim 23, wherein the execution unit executes at least a subset of the plurality of executable instructions to implement the media processing application.

25.   (Canceled).

26.   (Canceled).

27.   (Canceled).

28.   (Canceled).

29.   (New) A computing system comprising:

a media processing application;

a media processing accelerator; and

an operating system, executing on the computing system, including an application program interface (API) to facilitate communication between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator, wherein the API includes auto-negotiation data structure(s) and operational data structure(s) to dynamically negotiate at least a set of media processing system capabilities and/or a split in media processing among system elements suitable to each of the media processing application and the media processing accelerator and to processing of received media content, respectively, the operational data structure(s) comprising:

a raw bitstream data structure, generated by the API to pass media content in raw bitstream form from the media processing application to the media processing accelerator, wherein the raw bitstream data structure is dynamically generated when the auto-negotiation data structures have negotiated that the media processing accelerator will perform the media processing.

30. (New) A computing system according to claim 29, the auto-negotiation data structures comprising:

a processing mode data structure, generated by the API to propose a media set of media processing capabilities and/or a split in media processing among system elements to each of the media processing application and the media processing accelerator.

31. (New) A computing system according to claim 30, wherein the processing mode data structure is a ConnectMode data structure.

32. (New) A computing system according to claim 29, the auto-negotiation data structures comprising:

a connection mode data structure, specifying a set of media processing system capabilities, and/or

a processing configuration data structure, generated by the API to propose a split in media processing between the media processing application and the media processing accelerator.

33. (New) A computing system according to claim 32, wherein the processing configuration data structure comprises a ConnectConfig data structure.

34. (New) A computing system according to claim 29, further comprising:

a storage medium including a plurality of executable instructions; and

an execution unit, coupled to the storage medium, to execute at least a subset of the plurality of executable instructions to implement the operating system and associated API.

35.   (New) A computing system according to claim 34, wherein the execution unit executes at least a subset of the plurality of executable instructions to implement the media processing application.